

Docket No. A2012-92

Postal Regulatory Commission

Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

NOTICE OF FILING UNDER 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)

TO THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE:

Please take notice that the Commission received four petitions for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Plover post office located in Plover, Iowa. The first petition for review received November 30, 2011 was filed by Darla Johnson. The second petition for review received November 30, 2011 was filed by Alan and Karen Minkler. The third petition for review received December 2, 2011 was filed by Eugene B. Van Deest. The fourth petition for review received on December 6, 2011 was filed by Citizens of Plover. The earliest postmark date is November 19, 2011.

This notice is advisory only and is being furnished so that the Postal Service may begin assembling the administrative record in advance of any formal appeal proceedings held upon the alleged (closing/consolidation) for transmittal pursuant to 39 CFR § 3001.113(a) (requiring the filing of the record within 15 days of the filing with the Commission of a petition for review).



Shoshana M. Grove
Secretary

Date: December 28, 2011

Attachment

To whom it may concern,

Received

A 2012-92
RECEIVED

NOV 29 2011

Office of PAGR

2011 NOV 30 P 2:03

I am writing this letter to you today to protest the closing of our
Post Office in Plover, IA.

POST OFFICE
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Our Post Office is a meeting place every morning as well as doing the Post Office sales for our small community. Our expenses are probably the smallest amount of anyone around as we only have a PMR/OIC, not a Post Master and our rent and utilities are probably low also. Our building is well maintained and handicapped acceptable.

For me as an older patron who also runs our Town Library it is going to be a lot harder to get books mailed out that I do a weekly basis. I would have to drive at least 8 to 15 miles to sometimes mail out these books. In the winter months I don't do well driving on bad roads and don't normally go out of town often enough to get my books mailed in a timely manner. I know I can put them out for the rural driver but getting the money back and forth between us will be inconvenient in some ways. You have already cut the hours of business and we here in town are making that work.

Our Post Office has been here for many years and my father was Post Master for 27 of those years. It will be detrimental to our town to close the Post Office.

Thank you for listening to me and I hoping you will reconsider this whole thing.

Darla Johnson

205 Main

Plover, IA 50573

Received

NOV 18 2011

Office of PAGR

A 2012-92

RECEIVED

11-19-11

To whom it may concern 2011 NOV 30 P 2:03

I am writing about the closing of the Plover Post Office in Plover, Iowa.

I know that we all have to conserve money and cutting budgets and or maybe closing some post offices is your answer. But have you really considered what you are doing to Rural America? For some people that (Post Office) is their only contact with people on a daily basis; especially the elderly. In Plover if the people in the community notice that their mail isn't picked up or they don't show up; we (the people) call to be sure they are alright. (ie - not sick or have fallen). If you close our Post Office no one will know if the mail has been picked up. Many elderly do not have the resources to move to a bigger community; nor do they desire to move as this has been their home for many years.

You say that a person can get on line to order stamps, print labels etc from the postal department. What about the

people who don't have a computer or internet access? You might say well go to your local library, to get on the computer for postal information; but our library has limited hours so the access is limited.

Who is responsible if a person should fall while getting their mail from the cluster box? Where does the liability lie? Who will keep the snow cleaned around these boxes? Did you figure in that expense? In this day no one does much for nothing!

The lady who owns the building where our Post Office is located is very easy to deal with. She is a retired Postmaster. The rent and utilities are very reasonable. One might say cheap! Our building is already handicap accessible, ie - the counter has been lowered for a wheelchair and we do have people in wheelchairs in town, who do use it. We have a ramp up to the door. The building has had many recent updates. I fail to see with all the money the Postal department

has spent in the last couple of years; why you are so willing to close our office.

Many people like the personal contact you get when mailing a package or buying stamps. I get a feeling you want to take away that from the rural areas. The closest next Post Office is approximately 15 miles. Many people around our small town like using the Post Office because it has a warm and inviting appeal to them.

Our Post Office is a place where public notices, city events, minutes of various meetings are posted. We have no place else to post these, and state law states such things need to be posted for the public.

You have shortened the hours our Post Office is open. And our PMR get no benefits and by shortening of hours her hours have been cut also. The people of our small community have worked to accept these conditions. We are willing to give if only the postal system will work with us to keep the Post Office open. Many sacrifices

have been made already one would think some compromises could be made.

We are like alot of small rural communities we have had a papulation decline. But we are fighting back. Recently some of the buisnesses are expanding and we have had some young families move into town. We have started to see a revitalization of our community. We are afraid that by clasing the Post Office it will have an aduverse effect on our community. We are asking the Postal system to rethink their decision to close the Plover Post Office in Plover, Iowa. Our fear that by clasing the Plover Post Office is it may be the straw that broke the camels back.

Thank You
Allan & Karen Minkler
P.O. BOX 95
106 Jackson St.
Plover, Iowa
50573

A 2012-92

Eugene B Van Deest
201 South Street
P.O. Box 52
Plover, IA 50573

RECEIVED

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave. NW Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

2011 DEC - Postal Regulatory Commission
Office of the Chief Admin. Officer
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DEC 2 2011

25 November 2011

Dear People;

This letter is in response to your commission's proposal of closing of our Post Office here in Plover, IA.

Yes we are a very small community of only about 85 residents, but our Post Office is our life line to the rest of the world. Without our Post Office we will cease to exist, not only that but you will be placing a hardship onto our entire community.

Our city ordinances state that if we need to relay information to the residents of Plover, Iowa we need to post the information in three (3) different locations in town so that we can be sure that all residents will be able to read the information. Without the availability of the Post Office we will only have two (2) places to post such information, because there is no other place that people can congregate.


The next closest Post Office to us that would remain open is twenty six (26) miles round trip. For a business owner that is unacceptable, as it would take about an hour out of my schedule just to conduct business at the Post Office, when now I can do this same task in just ten (10) minutes.

If you would consider keeping our Post Office open, our community I'm sure would not object if the hours were reduced to say 2 hours per day 3 days per week. For example on Tuesday's, Thursday's, and Saturday's. The reason I say Saturday is so that the people that have to work during the week would still be able to pick up their mail on Saturday.

This way we would be able to keep our Post Office, and in turn it would not cost so much to maintain and for payroll.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering this letter before you make your final decision regarding the Post Office closing in our community of Plover, IA.

Sincerely,



Eugene B Van Deest

A 2012-92

Nov. 27, 2011

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

Postal Regulatory Commission

2011 DEC -6 A 10:42

901 New York Ave NW Ste 200

Office of PAGR

Washington DC 20268-0001

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
01

The Postal Service has informed us of a decision to close our post office by Dec.9, 2011. This action is being taken after meeting the provisions of the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 and over our protestations.

We, the customers of Plover Post Office, vigorously protest this action in view of the provision in the Postal Reorganization Act that calls for the Postal Service to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal service to rural areas, communities and small towns where the post office is not self-sustaining.

The Postal Service's decision to close our post office and provide rural delivery service raises questions concerning the sanctity of the mail and risks involved in noncareer employees handling the mail. We also foresee inconveniences in purchasing money orders and stamps and sending accountable mail. We have the same concerns regarding the receipt of accountable mail, such as certified letters, registered letters and CODs.

The Postal Service has ignored placing a postmaster in this office for 14 years. The PMR, a noncareer position, has had the responsibility as OIC during this time. As a result the hours were cut from 6 ¾ hrs. daily to 2 ½ daily.

We feel that, as citizens of the United States, we are entitled to the same efficient postal service provided to our counterparts in urban areas. The Postal Reorganization Act is explicit in pointing this out. We petition you, as members of the Postal Regulatory Commission, to respectfully consider our protest and order the Postal Service to give additional considerations to our service needs.

Respectfully,

Citizens of Plover, Iowa

Glenn Kellickson

Janice Van Oest

Edgar T. Sauer

Doug Bush

Shirley Bush

D. and D. D. D. D. D.

Plover Town Council

Darla Johnson [redacted] council

Plover Fire Dept

[redacted] council

Kathy Rubel

[redacted] clerk of council

John [redacted] council

[redacted] council